

COMORAH MONTHLY BULLETIN

South African Mission
of

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

GROVE AND MAIN ROADS

MOWBRAY

CAPE PROVINCE SOUTH AFRICA



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"A NATION SPEAKS FROM OUT THE DUST"

By Theodore E. Curtis

Rejoice, O Earth! while tempests rage,
The Dispensation's early morn
Brings forth a wonder of the age--
A modern miracle is born!

One hundred years have passed away
Since pillowed in celestial flame,.
To Ramah's slopes, dethroning day,
The angel of the record came.

To Joseph, God's anointed Seer,
He gave the Book of Mormon old
That lay reposed from year to year
There in Cumorah's virgin mold.

A nation speaks from out the dust!
Let Joseph's scattered seed rejoice!
The pages of that sacred trust
Are vibrant with Jehovah's voice.

His words of life are written there;
His promises and precepts old;
And gems of hidden wisdom rare
Adorn that sacred book of gold.

Sweet with the voice of hallowed Seers
From age to hoary age it lay,
The story of forgotten years
And struggling nation passed away,

To issue forth in latter days
From ancient Ramah's sacred sod,
To reconcile a darkened race
And vindicate the ways of God.
(Improvement Era.)

"TEMPORAL SALVATION IS INSEPARABLY CONNECTED WITH OUR PROGRESS
IN SPIRITUAL SALVATION"

I am particularly writing this article for the benefit of those who have made covenants with God declaring their willingness "to take upon them the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and to always remember him and keep the commandments which he has given them, that they may always have His Spirit to be with them"; also to those who may be investigating the laws and commandments of God in anticipation of entering into that Covenant, that we all may be led into obedience, and the enjoyment of all the blessings which God has prepared for us, and not come short of any good thing.

In the course of my travels as a missionary declaring the Restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, I frequently come face to face with those of all denominations who confess faith in the word of God and reckon themselves among the followers of Jesus Christ, yet declare that their temporal conditions remain very deplorable year after year.

Surely there must be some adjustable reason for this unhappy condition or the words of Jesus Christ to his disciples have failed. He said: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33.

The question is, then: how may we obtain them?

For the past twenty-four years I have had excellent opportunity for watching the growth of Temporal and Spiritual Salvation in the homes of the Latter-day Saints, collectively and individually, as they have obediently observed counsel and obeyed the divine laws which God has so graciously revealed for mankind through his latter-day prophets. I have also seen where blessings have been withheld through indifference to counsel, that for me to declare that Temporal Salvation is inseparably connected with our progress in Spiritual Salvation becomes quite natural.

It may be helpful to us all if we remember that God is not bound by any promise he has made when we fail or discontinue to obey the law upon which the blessing is predicated. The Lord made this very clear in a Revelation to the Prophet Joseph Smith: "For all who will have a blessing at my hands shall abide the law which was appointed for that blessing, and the conditions thereof, as were instituted from before the foundation of the world." Doc. & Cov. 132:5.

This eternal law applies to all the human race, irrespective; for God is no respecter of persons; He invites all to seek and find the correct way to joy and happiness for our present as well as for our future state, and has inspired His servants to teach the way to obtain them.

Sometimes there are those who associate with the Church and Kingdom of God, but fail to receive the desires of their hearts be-

cause they are indifferent, and become wilfully blind. They are they who impute unfaithfulness to the promises of God as declared through the Scriptures.

To such I would suggest a careful examination of the declaration made by the Apostle James, see James 4:1-3: "From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts."

The children of God, those who do whatsoever he commandeth them, are entitled to the spirit of wisdom to guide them in their daily walk of life and in the spirit of wisdom the good things of heaven and earth are obtainable. Wisdom will not forget that we must first learn to obey the law upon which the blessing is obtainable.

The members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints are not a people who imagine that they have special claims on the bounties of Heaven and earth by just praying for them; we believe in seeking wisdom to guide us in the most pleasing way to obtain them. Thus by exercise of our own efforts and a willingness to subordinate any obstacle which is an hindrance, we go after them.

As we progress in our efforts we usually find the obstacles to be wasted time and means through indulging in things which are non-productive of joy, and often destroying our health, thus doubling up on wastefulness.

The man who is willing to accept the counsel of God regarding strong drinks, use of tobacco, tea and coffee, and using meat sparingly -- has direct advantage of from one pound upwards each month which might be a very substantial figure toward adding to the comfort of the home; and indirectly, the many sick days with medical expenses; the loss of a good reputation and regular employment; and not infrequently the cause of the loss of a good character, which when gone is hard to re-establish.

Not alone is the non-observance of the Word of Wisdom a channel for the loss of hard earned wages so sorely needed to provide the many little comforts for all in the home, and the loss of reputation and character, but very frequently it is the real cause of many most precious hours being wasted which otherwise could and ought to be used in the study of useful sciences by which the ladder of success can be ascended. Generally the working conditions with the educational facilities now offered afford all opportunities for advancement.

There is an excessive demand today for frivolous pleasures, many of which tend toward slothfulness and waste being non-essential to happiness. These excesses have become inimical to the mental, moral and physical progress of the individual in the home; thus they are a detriment to the community. The Latter-day Saints, or all who will obtain temporal salvation, must keep their desires for wasteful excesses, of whatever nature they be, under absolute control.

Give more time to the study of the Scriptures and you will find their great value.

Paul told Timothy: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

Many of the world's best examples for character and public service are those who have had to pass through great self denial utilizing their spare moments in prayerful study to provide for their own and family needs; therefore, do not allow yourselves to be chained down by pernicious habits which will rob you of the temporal blessings of life. He that does need not wait till after death to find out the damnation, he is damned right here and now, and unless he repents, removes these damns, he will never be able to obtain the blessings promised by the Saviour of the World in this life or in the life to come.

I believe President Brigham Young once declared that: "a religion which had not the vitality within its teachings to give a temporal salvation would lack the elements of the Spiritual."

God has declared through the prophet Malachi, a system which will insure his blessings temporally, socially, and spiritually upon his people: "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the store-house, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of hosts."

There are many people who have allowed God's law of tithing to bar them from seeking entrance into his Kingdom because they fear to pay over for his work a tithe as though it were an hard and severe law to obey, even though the blessings which come through obedience thereto are so beautifully expressed and assured by the prophet.

If it be a cross for you to bear, take it up manfully and bear it. It does not even approach the Cross which Christ bore for us to purchase our Spiritual emancipation from the powers of evil and give us eternal life.

Begin now to make the Lord of Hosts your friend by a real and active association with His work and you will learn to your joy that Temporal Salvation is inseparably connected with our progress in Spiritual Salvation as many thousands of Latter-day Saints can testify. ---Samuel Martin, Mission President---

 "We have not failed until we cease to try." --- Kant.

"THE CHARM OF TITHING"

By Albert R. Lyman

The full tithe is a pleasure, not a burden. If future destinies should be unveiled, showing the glorious place and privilege to which some men will attain, every man seeing it would aspire with all his heart to reach that uppermost place. Into the most searching test of his fitness he would enter without reservation of strength or comfort. Oh the wonder of an examination offering eternal values to every man proving himself fit!

This is the great examination, the great test of the ages. The elements around us and the very materials of which our bodies are made are organized primarily to prove our worthiness or unworthiness of promotion. Answering our immortal and implacable ambition to progress, our eternal Father said, "We will take of these materials and make an earth whereon these may dwell, and we will prove them herewith to see if they will do all things the Lord shall command them. And they who keep their second estate shall have glory added upon their heads forever and ever."

The "materials" were to glitter before our eager grasp, we were to hold them in our hands, to prove ourselves by contact with them.

Cherishing his purpose of proving men, the Lord has said plainly what he requires while they are in contact with these proving elements. In one of his commandments, referring directly to the materials he places within the individual grasp of men, the Lord says, "I require one-tenth of their interest annually." That is the law of tithing. It seems simple and easy enough, and many find keen charm in carrying it out to the very letter. Others, of seemingly equal intelligence, cheat it, stumble over it and call it difficult or unfair.

All that we hold has been placed in our hands for this proving. "A man hath nothing except it be given him of God." Soon it will slip from our grasp, even though we succeed in clutching it till our fingers are palsied in death.

Think of it, brother, and get the true spirit of the contest. Pay tithing in answer to the immortal ambition which brought you on this pilgrimage to the "materials of earth," and the labor will be supremely sweet, as renewed promises of "glory added on your head forever and ever." ---Blanding, Utah.---(Improvement Era)

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A kind heart is a fountain of gladness, brightening everything in its vicinity.

He who says he can forgive but he cannot forget is deceived by the sound of words. True forgiveness involves forgetfulness of the injury. "Liahona"

"WHAT IT MEANS TO SELL A BOOK OF MORMON"

Have you ever tried to sell a Book of Mormon and failed because your prospective buyer asked you the simple question, "What is your idea in selling this Book?" Have you answered that question to the satisfaction of yourself? When one can tell the prospective buyer of the Book of Mormon, the answer to the former question before it is asked, he will have, in the majority of times, made the sale of the Book.

There exists in the minds of many today the thought that we as the "Mormon" people use the Book of Mormon as our Bible, and that we do not believe the Holy Bible to be the word of God. To sell a Book of Mormon to one with such a thought means to correct the thought and to replace it with the truth.

Very few people know the origin of the name "Mormon", and when they come in contact with the truth of the Book of Mormon they are surprised to know that "The Mormon Church" is not founded on the works of one named Mormon. In selling a Book of Mormon one can portray the true life of the Prophet Joseph Smith to take the place of the supposed man, by the name of Mormon, who was to have played the role of originator of the church.

Most of the people, with whom one gets a chance to converse, can tell of certain tribes of Indians in both North and South America; if they cannot, they are generally very interested and are glad to know of them.

To sell a Book of Mormon one can tell why, because of the disobedience and rebellion of their forefathers against the word of God, the American Indian has a copper coloured or "red" skin, and also how many, who are coming unto a knowledge of the truth, are again becoming "a white and delightful people". (11 Nephi 30:6)

It is of great evidence to the truthfulness of the Book of Mormon to show that the prophecies of Prophets mentioned therein have been and are being fulfilled today.

If the salesman of the Book of Mormon can conveniently show an investigator some of the photos of the huge and wonderful ruins which are still standing, it will greatly add to his proof and to their interest. Tell them how the builders, once a mighty nation, were brought low and today we have but a remnant known as the American Indian.

Can we estimate the value of putting the Gospel in its fullness in the home of any person for them to peruse in their odd moments at home? Is there an end to the joy one receives from having left a Book of Mormon to be a witness to the truthfulness of the Everlasting Gospel in the home of a seeker of truth?

I wish that we all could realize the importance of having this message to give to the world, and what a help it is to let the Book of Mormon be your representative in the Home when you are gone, and perhaps forgotten. -- Elder Wells L. Evans.--

THE BOOK OF MORMON

"If the gospel, as set forth in the Book of Mormon, were accepted by a neighborhood, a town, a city, or a world, there would be no thieving there any longer, there would be no lying there any longer, no cheating, no deceiving, no intentional breaking of promises, no wrong dealing, no extortion, no hatred, no envy, and no evil speaking -- because obedience to the gospel implies repentance, which means nothing more nor less than putting away all our evils and ceasing to do them."

"The joy which filled my bosom in reading that sacred record, waking up our minds and giving us the knowledge of the past dealings of God with the inhabitants of this vast western hemisphere, and of a nation of people as ancient as that of Abraham or of the Jaredites, and giving us knowledge also of a branch of scattered Israel led away from the land of their fathers 600 years B.C., and the glorious fact, the most important of all in the book, that the risen Jesus, in his glorified, immortal flesh and bones, set his feet upon this western hemisphere and ministered publicly to thousands and thousands of the Nephites, blessed them, revealed to them his gospel in its fulness, and was glorified in their presence all these things received in faith in my heart, and by the spirit of knowledge and of light and of understanding, and of hope and joy and charity, filled my heart in a way that I never can express to any being; to have the same joy understood, it must be experienced."

(Parley P. Pratt, Journal of Discourses, vol.3,)

THE LIMITATIONS OF GENIUS

The man who wrote "Twinkle, twinkle, little star" had the satisfaction of seeing the star follow his instructions.

Similar happiness was vouchsafed the author of "Roll on, thou dark and deep blue ocean, roll."

Nor must the equally delighted gentleman who commanded "Blow, blow, ye wintry winds" be forgotten.

But as for the person who wrote: "Backward, turn backward, O time in your flight!" Time refused to do it. --Boston Transcript.--
(Liahona)

"For after your testimony cometh the testimony of earthquakes, that shall cause groanings in the midst of her, and men shall fall upon the ground and shall not be able to stand.

"And also cometh the testimony of the voice of thunderings, and the voice of lightnings, and the voice of tempests, and the voice of the waves of the sea heaving themselves beyond their bounds." D.& C.

"MISSION NEWS"

"Cumorah", Mowbray.

The past month's work has been one of progress in this District. On Sunday, May 6th, three people were added to the fold: Bro. and Sister John Neale, and Frank Smith, son of Bro. Frank E. Smith.

On May 13th, a very successful Mother's Day program was given by the Sunday School, which is growing and proving a great source of strength to all.

May 14th, Elders Noel G. Knight and Wm. B. Holland left "Cumorah" on a country trip. They visited in Stickland, Stellenbosch, Van der Stel, Strand, and Eerste River. They returned to "Cumorah" on May 19th, and reported a very successful trip.

Thursday, May 24th, the Elders were called out to Elsie's River to administer to Sister Violet Pirie, who has improved very much since. Brother DeVilliers is in the New Somerset Hospital with Dropsy but is feeling very well at the present time.

The Mutual work is growing every day. The Relief Society is also growing and is proving a great source of strength. The investigators are taking a great interest in the work. The Tracting is very good. The people are interested and we are able to tell them our message and leave literature with them. We have sold many copies of the Book of Mormon. ---Elder Wm. B. Holland, District Clerk---

"Ramah", Johannesburg.

We feel grateful to our Father in Heaven for the many blessings we have enjoyed during the past month.

The Elders have had many experiences of late which have borne home to them that the Lord is at the helm. The love and harmony existing at "Ramah" has had its influence among the Saints and friends, and we are glad to report the members in splendid spiritual condition.

The Saints here by their loving devotion to the work of the Lord have been instrumental in carrying the Gospel to many new investigators and thus discharge their obligation of warning the people.

A very successful Mutual social was held at "Ramah" on April 27th, and was enjoyed by all in attendance.

On May 29th, the Mutual Improvement Association sponsored an Old Fashion Dance in honour of the Transvaal's first local missionary, Elder Edward Hughes. It proved a success both socially and financially.

On May 21st, President Marion L. Allred and Elder O. Layton Alldredge left for Pretoria where a profitable week was spent visiting Saints and Friends. We deeply regret that we have not sufficient Elders that two might be placed at Pretoria, as we feel there are many who are seeking for the truth.

We have had a marked improvement of late in the attendance at meetings, although illness amongst the Saints has deprived some of that privilege.

Our tracting work has been very successful. We have interested several new families in the Gospel and they are studying that they might know the truthfulness of our message.

The Transvaal District extends Gospel love to the Saints and Friends of the South African Mission. ---Elder O. Layton Alldredge.

---District Clerk---

Port Elizabeth District.

We are thankful unto the Lord that the work is progressing in this District.

During the first part of the month we made a visit to Uitenhage.

On May 15th, President Samuel Martin arrived and his visit was appreciated by all. Conference was held May 20th with a fair attendance.

After Sunday School, Brother Otto W. Doller and Brother Robert J. Doller were ordained to the office of a Priest, and Brother Godfrey W. Seaward was ordained to the office of a Deacon.

On May 21st and 22nd a visit was paid to Uitenhage by President Samuel Martin and District President Sheldon R. Free.

On May 24th President Samuel Martin departed from us on the 3:45P.M. train to Cape Town.

We receive joy from our labours and feel to extend our best wishes through-out the South African Mission.

-- District Clerk A. Edward Hughes. --

Bloemfontein District.

We can again report a successful month's labours in the Bloemfontein District. We have done a considerable amount of tracting during the past month and hope by the end of next month to have many new homes of investigators opened.

We were fortunate enough to hold four successful Street Meetings during the month, but we are afraid that the cold weather which is now setting in will only allow us to hold them now and again.

On the 29th of April, Mission President Samuel Martin arrived here from Durban. He spent a week with us visiting among the Saints and Friends, many of whom have said that great joy came to them from his visit.

We held a successful Conference on Sunday the 6th of May; the Elders of the Kimberley District were in attendance. Elder George C. Maw and Mission President Samuel Martin were the speakers.

Elder Foyal L. Smith and Brother Cicil Reuben Penny came home from the hospital on the 19th of May; they both are picking up splendidly after their long illness.

On the 20th, Elder Foyal L. Smith had the pleasure of blessing Adrian Alexander Greenberg, son of Bro. and Sis. Alexander S. Greenberg.

On the 26th, Elder Smith left Bloemfontein for Johannesburg and Pretoria for a weeks holiday after his long illness.

We are glad to announce that we have re-organized the M.I.A.

The Officers of the organization are as follows: Bro. Samuel J. Greenberg, President; Bro. Alexander S. Greenberg, first counselor; Sister Grace Penny, second counselor; and Bro. Charles H. Spear, Secretary. We hope and pray that through this organization that many will be brought to investigate the Gospel.

---District Clerk Bertram J. Glynn---

Kimberley District.

We are grateful unto the Lord for his blessings unto us, and we feel that we have been benefited for our efforts put forth.

On Friday, May 4th, we went to Bloemfontein to attend Conference. During our four day visit there, we visited with President Martin and the Saints of that District. We enjoyed our visit to Bloemfontein very much.

During the month we have had good visits with Investigators of the Gospel. We feel that our attendance at meetings is steadily increasing.

On May 13th, Brother Rask was confined to his bed and was taken to the Hospital. He is improving and will be able to go home in the near future.

The Saints of Kimberley join with us in extending our best regards to all who may be privileged to read the Bulletin.

---Elder George C. Maw, District Clerk---

Natal District.

We are thankful for the privilege of reporting this District as growing and progressing in the work of the Lord, and we all feel benefited by the efforts put forth.

As we are now living in a different part of town we have opened a new tracting field close by our home and have received good results from so doing.

Brother Arthur Fagan who has been a willing worker in this District has been confined to his home for the past five months with very bad eye trouble; however he is now on the road to improvement.

Our recently organized Sunday School is progressing and becoming a great strength to this District.

The "Cumorah Monthly Bulletin" is doing much good in this District and is a source of much strength to the Saints and Friends, who look forward to its arrival each month.

---Elder Rex C. Ellsworth, Dist. Clerk.

East London District.

We feel greatly blessed by having the privilege of reporting a most successful month spent in work among the people of this District.

On Tuesday, May 8th, President Evans left this District to meet Mission President Samuel Martin in Queenstown, where they had some good visits with prominent local men.

East London was glad to welcome and receive a visit from

President Samuel Martin, who arrived here on May 11th and stayed until Monday, May 14th.

On Sunday, May 13th, President Martin addressed a congregation of Saints and investigators in the S.O.E. Hall. Those in attendance enjoyed his remarks very much. Two Books of Mormon were sold at the meeting.

When we saw a Special Post Office Delivery Lorry stop in front of our home on May 22nd, we thought that perhaps something had gone wrong. We found out, however, that our order of nearly 10,000 tracts and five dozen Book of Mormon had arrived.

The Street Meetings are proving a success; we pass out about 800 tracts at each meeting.

During the past month, Westbank has been tracted and thirty-seven copies of the Book of Mormon have been left in the homes. We have been over the field but once and hope to be able to leave many more copies there before we are through.

Twelve new homes have been opened up for visiting; each family expresses a desire of knowing more about the Plan of Salvation as found in the Church of Jesus Christ.

We have had a marked increase in the attendance to our Sunday Evening Services, and in the coming month hope! -- Yes! -- even expect to have greater attendance.

East London District is growing, just watch it!

---Elder Ray Wm. Ellsworth, Dist. Clerk.

CAPE CONFERENCE.

Despite the rain and chilly weather the Semi-Annual Conference of the Cape District was very beneficial to all who attended on the 9th and 10th of June.

Saturday Evening a Priesthood Meeting was held at which the missionaries and local brethren attended. A paper was read by Elder R. Earl Madsen on "The Importance of the Priesthood", (as pertaining to the Mission Field.) Mission President Samuel Martin gave very timely instructions. Testimonies were borne by all present.

The Sunday School Conference program was very beautifully carried out under the direction of the Superintendency.

Immediately after Sunday School an Officers and Teachers meeting was held and at this meeting very encouraging reports were given by the presidents of the auxiliary organizations. A paper was read on the value of the Sunday School work and one on the value of the M.I.A. work by Elders Wm. B. Holland and Theodore R. Martin respectively. District President Noel G. Knight gave a good report of the missionary labours since last Conference: There has been an average of three elders labouring in the Cape District; they have sold sixty-six Books of Mormon; spent three hundred and sixty-five hours tracting; and 1130.5 hours were spent in Gospel conversations.

In the Evening Services, Sister Clara Martin spoke on Repent-

ance and what it had meant to her family and many others with whom she had associated; treating it from the standpoint that progress is inseparable from Repentance. Nowbray Branch President Thomas Wilson bore strong testimony to the fact that death is not the end. President Samuel Martin then took the remainder of the evening to encourage all to search the Scriptures and to develop a love for them. He said, "Our spiritual development is based upon our love and obedience to the Word of God, whether given through the prophets of old, the Savior and His Apostles, or by the prophets of these latter days." --- Elder Wm. B. Holland, District Clerk.---

CONGRATULATIONS.

Congratulations are now in order! Brother James J. Campbell now residing in Pretoria informs us that he has entered into the most ancient order of the married folks; therefore we have pleasure in announcing that on May 23rd, 1928, Brother Campbell was married to Miss A. Webb, of Johannesburg, and tender them our best wishes for an happy and useful life together.

A recent letter to this office from the East London District shows a very optimistic spirit indeed. It has been written: "Originality and initiative are factors contributive of success in missionary labour no less than in any other endeavour", -- truly this has been manifested by our brethren in that District.

If you doubt their zeal and progressive spirit, perhaps their new slogan will dispel your dubiety: "We're selling East London Books of Mormon! A Book of Mormon a day keeps the devil away!"

Last month the two brethren labouring in that District distributed 42 Books of Mormon. Have we got the spirit brethren?

Remember "A thousand Books of Mormon in a thousand new homes this year!"

I WOULD BE TRUE

I would be true, for there are those who trust me;
I would be pure, for there are those who care;
I would be strong, for there is much to suffer;
I would be brave, for there is much to dare.

I would be friend to all -- the foe, the friendless;
I would be giving and forget the gift;
I would be humble, for I know my weakness;
I would look up -- and laugh -- and love -- and lift.

-- Howard Arnold Walter.--
(Liahona)

